## **Cave Survey Synopsis**

April 5, 2013

## **Team members:**

Dan Austin (trip leader)

Adam Weaver

Chris Pelczarski

This trip's objective was to explore and survey leads near the Fiscal Cliff, located under the western edge of Lithograph Canyon. A month earlier, on the last trip to the area, ropes were used to access some vertical leads on the far side of the Fiscal Cliff. One final vertical fissure had been found, but was not explored due to a lack of time.

This team returned to the fissure, and as Adam and Dan surveyed over to it, Chris rappelled down and found that it didn't continue. The cavers finished surveying the rest of the unmapped cave on the far



Stream cobbles found near the Fiscal Cliff. NPS Photo.

side of the Fiscal Cliff, then headed off to explore other leads nearby.

Since the team was already carrying rope and vertical gear, they went to a climbing lead that Dan had

looked at on a previous trip, but hadn't climbed into or surveyed. Carefully climbing up, Dan was able to access the upper lead and anchor the rope for the others to use as a hand line. They surveyed into this lead and completed the survey to its end, then decided to call it a day and head for the surface. A total of 390.70 feet of new survey was added to the map.

The current length of Jewel Cave is 166.37 miles.

